



PRESS RELEASE

House National Security Committee

Floyd D. Spence, Chairman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS ADVISORY

NATIONAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEES TO CONDUCT FIELD HEARING AT FORT RILEY, KANSAS

The Subcommittees on Military Readiness and Military Personnel of the Committee on National Security of the U.S. House of Representatives will conduct a field hearing on Friday, March 20 at 9 a.m. in the West Ballroom of the Ft. Riley Restaurant and Events Center, 466 Seitz road, Ft. Riley, Kansas. The subcommittees will receive testimony to assess the readiness of Army follow-on forces and review Army-National Guard integrated divisions. The hearing is open to the public.

Media Information:

- All members of the press interested in covering the hearing should contact Army Major John Stauter, Fort Riley Public Affairs Officer, at 785-239-3032.
- On the day of the hearing, press should arrive at the Public Affairs Office, Building 405, no later than 8:30a.m. for check-in and credentialing.
- Directions: Take interstate I-70 to Fort Riley. Turn off on exit marked Marshal Army Air Field. Take this exit road past the air field, over the Kansas River Bridge to Holbrook Avenue. Go left on Holbrook two blocks. Building 405 sets at the corner of Holbrook and Pershing Avenues.

Witness List:

Panel I

- *Gen. David Bramlett, Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces Command
- *Maj. Gen. William Navas, Director, Army National Guard
- *Maj. Gen. Freddy E. McFerren, Commanding General, Ft. Riley, KS
- *Brig. Gen. Nicholas P. Sipe, Commander, 218th Heavy Separate Brigade (Mechanized), South Carolina Army National Guard
- *Col. Roy Martin Umbarger, Commander, 76th Infantry Brigade (Separate), Indiana Army National Guard

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Panel II

- *Mr. Mark E. Gebicke, Director, Military Operations & Capabilities Issues, National Security & International Affairs Division, U.S. General Accounting Office
- *Mr. William Solis, Assistant Director, Military Operations & Capabilities Issues, U.S. General Accounting Office
- *Mr. Syd Carroll, Evaluator in Charge, Norfolk Field Office, U.S. General Accounting Office

Panel III

- *Col. William Caldwell, Commander, 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division
- *CSM Kenneth Lopez, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division
- *Col. Joseph F.H. Peterson, Commander, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division
- *CMS Michael Gravens, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division
- *Col. Bill Chamberlin, Commander, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division
- *CMS Terrence McWilliams, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division
- *Col. Kent D. Thomas, Garrison Commander, Ft. Riley

Background Information:

The subcommittee is in the process of considering the readiness aspects of the President Clinton's fiscal year 1999 defense budget request. This is the third and final readiness related field hearings during the National Security Committee's consideration of the annual defense budget. Last year, the subcommittee held similar hearings and the information learned from the witnesses directly influenced many of the readiness provisions contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85).

The jurisdiction of the House National Security Committee covers the breadth of the operations of the Department of Defense (DOD) as well as the significant national security portions of the annual operating budget of the Department of Energy. DOD's annual budget in excess of \$260 billion involves millions of military and civilian personnel, thousands of facilities, and hundreds of agencies, departments, and commands located throughout the world. The oversight responsibilities of the Committee on National Security are conducted primarily within the context of the committee's consideration of the annual defense authorization bill.

The committee divides its responsibilities between five standing subcommittees (Military Procurement, Military Research and Development, Military Readiness, Military Installations and Facilities, and Military Personnel) and two special oversight panels (Moral, Welfare, and Recreation and Merchant Marine).

The Military Readiness Subcommittee is chaired by U.S. Representative Herbert H. Bateman (R-VA) and is comprised of 22 members of Congress. The subcommittee is responsible for the annual authorization of funding for operation and maintenance, the readiness and preparedness requirements of the defense establishment, and related legislative oversight.

The Military Personnel Subcommittee is chaired by U.S. Representative Steve Buyer (R-IN) and is comprised of 15 members of Congress. The subcommittee is responsible for the annual authorization of funding for military forces and endstrengths, integration of active and reserve components, military personnel policy, compensation and other benefits, and related legislative oversight.

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